

COUNTRY WALK NEWS

WEBSITE ~ WWW.COUNTRYWALKHOA.NET

SPRING ~ MAY 14, 2004

COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE—MAY 27TH-29TH



Several neighbors have planned a garage sale for Thursday, May 27th through Saturday, May 29th. Everyone is invited to participate!

Advertising will be placed in the Hendricks County Flyer and the Indianapolis Star. Donations to help pay for those ads can be forwarded to:

Tonya Wittig
17 Candlewood Ct.
858-9211 (call between

5pm-9pm only, please).

For those new to the area, our garage sale usually draws pretty large crowds when we have plenty of participants.

Need some tips on how to have a successful garage sale? Try these:

1. Start Now! Gather your inventory together. Ask yourself if you would buy the item—if not, consider pitching it instead.
2. Visit other garage sales to see what pricing is like locally if you are not sure.
3. Get the pre-printed garage sale stickers—big time saver!
4. Be willing to negotiate on your prices.
5. Organize your 'store' layout so there is plenty of room to roam and no way to get to items you don't want to sell.
6. Tell a lot of people about the sale—
7. Take any unsold items to a charity such as Goodwill. Get a receipt for your taxes.
8. Also check: <http://www.yardsalequeen.com/yardsale.htm>

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

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CHANGES REQUIRE APPROVAL



Most homeowners have been very good about contacting the board

when considering making changes to their home.

Any change to a color scheme, a structure (fence, deck, pool, swing set and others) or large landscaping projects require a review by the Board of Directors.

This review is called an ACC request (Architectural Control Commission). This

is found in the neighborhoods covenants and all homeowners are subject to the rules.

There is specific information required. Please contact a board member, Kirkpatrick Management or check the website.

HELP PULL WEEDS...OR PAY MORE?



As many may recall, the past several years, we have saved money on our landscape costs by volunteering to weed the flower beds on our own.

The weeds have arrived! We have scheduled next Saturday, May 22nd at 8:30 AM to meet as a community and help pull the weeds.

We need twenty to thirty people helping so that the time goes fast!

Please meet at the gazebo

promptly at 8:30 AM. Please bring, trash bags, gloves, kids, neighbors, cold water and a warm smile.

Anyone willing to donate a weed preventative spray would also be greatly appreciated.

This work not only saves every one of us from having to pay additional association dues, it is a great way to meet new friends, get a sun tan, work off that last five pounds

to your goal, etc.

It's not just weeds! We will also pick up trash on our property along Tilden and Hornaday Roads.

Those homeowners who live on one of the two ponds need to work together to keep the trash picked up around the shore line.

Keeping the weeds at bay not only looks nicer but it also helps maintain or grow our property values.

PROJECT TIME — STAIN THE GAZEBO!

WE NEED A FAMILY OR FAMILIES TO VOLUNTEER FOR THIS PROJECT! TALK ABOUT A FAMILY BONDING EXPERIENCE...

For those who enter from the north entrance, every day you pass the gazebo in front of the north pond.

Although this gazebo does not serve a big purpose in life other than to look pretty, we need to take good care of it.

It makes for a good picture on our website's home page!

It's time for a fresh coat of stain. In addition, we should check all the wood and replace any that is rotted.

We need a family or families to volunteer for this project! Talk about a family bonding experience...

The cost of the stain will be reimbursed by the Association if you would like (or you can

deduct it as a donation for a non-profit organization—consult your tax advisor).

Call a board member to-day to volunteer!

BROWNSBURG PARKS & RECREATION UPDATE



Exciting things are happening in our Parks Department!

First, the school corporation and the town have worked out a five year lease of most of the former Lincoln Elementary building to be used as a community center.

Next, the Parks Department moved their offices to that facility.

In addition, they re-designed their website to offer more information and online registration for activities.

Finally, they announced the schedule for summer activities! They've been busy!

You can find out more at their website ~ www.brownsburgparks.com.

You can register at the office during normal business hours or online 24 hours a day.

Some of the activities offered include: sports clinics (basketball, football, baseball, volleyball, tennis), karate, cheerleading, fitness training, speed & agility training.

Sign up Now!

WHAT TO DO WHEN NEIGHBORS...

There are no easy answers to the problem of how to get along with every neighbor all of the time. No matter how much you try, sometimes people just act in a way that defies logic and common sense.

You may have heard of the "Paradoxical Commandments". They were written by Kent Keith in 1968 and appeared in his book, "The Silent Revolution."

It's a good model of how to be a good neighbor:

"People are unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered. Love them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and true enemies. Succeed anyway.

The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow. Be good anyway.

Honesty and frankness will make you vulnerable. Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight. Build anyway.

People need help, but may attack you if you try to help them. Help them anyway.

In the final analysis, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway."



NEIGHBOR'S DAY ~ SEPTEMBER 25, 2004

www.neighborsday.org

"Building Stronger, Safer Communities through Communication" is the theme for the non profit Neighbor's Day Initiative Group (NDIG).

The creator of this idea has written a book. Here's an excerpt:

"It makes sense to me that if each of us would simply take the time to get to know our neighbors, and be willing to help each other make our streets safe again—then our neighborhoods would begin to reflect that same attitude. And eventually our cities, states, and nation would have to follow. If violence breeds violence, then surely harmony breeds harmony.

And that is why I am announcing the birth of a new holiday... (drum roll, please!)... a holiday that encourages neighbors to get to know each other. A day when everyone brings food and

drinks and sits down together. A day to say thank you for being a responsible neighbor and a good person. A day to celebrate taking back our streets and giving our children the safe playgrounds they deserve. A holiday I will call Neighbor's Day!"

The Country Walk Board of Directors would like to join in by celebrating neighbor's day also. It is set for September 25th, 2004.

Here are a few of the ideas for ways to consider making a better neighborhood on that day (or any day!):

"Goodwill Gesture- *Why not take this special day and do something nice for the neighbor who is always there for you when you need them? A plate of food, a thoughtful gift, or a personal thank you will do just fine!*

Peace Offering- *So somewhere along the way you had a disagreement, and now your energy*

is spent worrying about making eye contact with the neighbor you feel awkward around. Life is too short when spent focusing on the negative. Take time out today and make amends. A neighborhood needs smiling people too.

Make a New Friend- *Due to the fast pace of life, you just haven't been able to find the time to meet the folks down the street. You see them nearly everyday on your way home. Why not take some time on Neighbor's Day and make a personal introduction? It will make your next drive down your street that more friendlier.*"

If you like this idea and would like to help coordinate it for our neighborhood, please check out the website and then contact one of the board members.

"BUILDING
STRONGER, SAFER
COMMUNITIES
THROUGH
COMMUNICATION"



**COUNTRY WALK HOMEOWNER'S
ASSOCIATION, INC.**

Board Members:

Gene Hilger (thru 10-2006) ~ 858-8054
Matt Serd (thru 10-2005) ~ 858-0166
Joe Wittig (thru 10-2004) ~ 858-9211

Property Manager:
Kirkpatrick Management
5702 Kirkpatrick Way
P.O. Box 20630
Indianapolis, IN 46220-0630

Phone: 317-570-4358
Contact: Lee Geupel

**SIGN UP FOR EMAIL UPDATES:
WWW.COUNTRYWALKHOA.NET**



Bulldog News:

- Congrats to 2004 Brownsburg High School Graduates from Country Walk!
- Next year's fifth graders will be in their last year of elementary next year. The East and West Middle Schools will house 6th, 7th & 8th grades starting in Fall, 2005.
- Rumor is that next year's 7th grade class has over 1,000 kids. You see why the new school was needed?
- Do you read the school's website? It is a very nice site with all the information you need—including school calendars for next year, school board minutes and Parent-Link to review your children's grades.
- Check out the website also to see current construction pictures from the high school pool and media center and the East Middle School

THE COST OF PRINTING FOR THIS NEWSLETTER WAS DONATED BY GREENBRIAR ATHLETIC CLUB. VISIT THEM ON THE WEB AT WWW.GACLIB.COM. THEY OFFER A VARIETY OF FITNESS OPTIONS AND RACQUETBALL. THEY ARE LOCATED NEAR 86TH AND DITCH ON INDIANAPOLIS' NORTH SIDE. NO INITIATION FEE!

WHAT DOES A HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION BOARD DO?

Q: What does a homeowners association board do?

A: They are **volunteers** who work with other homeowners in the association to: plan and budget for current and future expenses; maintain a spreadsheet to verify progress or problems with the yearly budget; work with neighbors to resolve conflicts; work with homeowners to uphold covenants; work with property managers to make sure all billing for dues is completed; work with property managers to collect all past due amounts; work with attorneys when past due amounts become

really past due; publish information about the community for current and potential new residents on a website; work with realtors to know what a great neighborhood we have; work with the school corporation concerning issues effecting our area's students; work with the town to plan infrastructure improvements or to address snow removal issues; work with the police to patrol our neighborhood when neighbors forget to go slow with all these children around; work with county taxing personnel to verify the correct amount is being charged, work with landscapers

when they dump a mower in the pond or mow over a tree or scrape up a fence or leave ruts in someone's yard; work with local businesses to offer discounts or sponsor a neighborhood event; work with the fire department to show our kids how nice they are and how high those hoses can shoot water on the hottest day of the year; traps muskrats in our ponds that are destroying the shore; picks up trash along the ponds and other areas of the property; pull weeds in our property's flower beds; reviews old ACC requests, etc. Sound Fun?

Elections for the Country Walk Homeowner's Association Board of Directors will take place at the October Annual Meeting.

(The place and time are yet to be decided).

Consider starting your political career by working with your friends and neighbors.

Don't worry, there are some rewards also. Helping to maintain property values, meeting new friends and neighbors, adding to your resume—you get the picture!